THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The total demand as reflected by the programmes filed for various categories of coal for Gujarat for 1985 (upto October) works out to 1716 wagons per day.

(c) During 1984, against a demand for 1520 wagons per day, 1151 wagons per day were allotted.

(d) Against a demand of 1716 wagons per day during 1985 (upto October), 1238 wagons per day have been actually supplied to Gujarat State.

Shifting of Zonal Headquarters of Western Railways to Gandhi Nagar

1782. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a demand for shifting of zonal headquarters of Western Railways from Bombay to Gandhi Nagar in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, what are the administrative difficulties in shfting the headquarters of Western Railways from Bombay to Gandhi Nagar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The question of shifting of headquarters of Western Railway from Bombay has been examined but found not feasible on administrative, operational and economic considerations. Apart from huge expenditure, shifting of such well established office will involve transfer of a large number of staff and other allied problems. The prolonged disruption of administrative machinery during shifting also cannot be ignored.

Clearance of containers at Cochin Port

1783. SHRI C. HARIDAS: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cochin Port authorities have been at logger heads with the railways regarding the clearance of the containers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a large number of containers have been lying unattended in the port as a result thereof;

(c) what are the reasons for this non-co-operation and the measures Government have taken to patch up the difference between the organisations; and

(d) what is the estimated loss due to this non-co-operation?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Appeal for treatment abroad by Shri V. Chandrasekhar

1784. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any appeal/memorandum from Shri V. Chandrasekhar, international table tennis player, for treatment abroad; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) No such appeal/memorandum has been received from Shri V. Chandrasekhar. However, an appeal was received from Tamilnadu Table Tennis Association in this regard. An amount of Rs. 25,000 out of National Welfare Fund for Sportsmen has been sanctioned to Shri V. Chandrasekhar to partially meet expenses on his treatment.